



Date: March 26, 2010

To: Honorable Felix P. Camacho, Governor of Guam  
Honorable Judith T. Won Pat, Speaker, 30<sup>th</sup> Guam Legislature  
Dr. Nerissa Bretania Underwood, Superintendent of Education  
Chairman, Guam Education Policy Board

From: Education Suruhanu

Subject: February 2010 Report.

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**Notes from the Education Suruhanu.**

Each month the Office of the Education Suruhanu (the OES) provides a report summarizing its activities. The Education Suruhanu investigates any complaints of a person alleging violations of any of the Fourteen (14) Points of the Every Child is Entitled to an Adequate Public Education Act, P.L. 28-45. After completing an investigation, the Education Suruhanu informs the complainant of the conclusion or recommendation in writing and if appropriate, any action taken or to be taken by GDOE. In addition, the Education Suruhanu is authorized to perform inspections of the public schools to ensure compliance with the Fourteen (14) Points. The Education Suruhanu may perform such inspections on its own or with the assistance of various Government of Guam Regulatory Agencies. When working to fulfill the obligations of the office, the Education Suruhanu acts independently, informally, and neutrally. It is the role of the office to approach its duties as a neutral fact finder rather than as an advocate. The information in this report highlights the activities of February 2010.

**Complaint Report.**

Issue	Status	Conclusion/Recommendation	Action taken
Certified teachers assigned to the FQ Sanchez Elementary School were transferred from the school leaving the remaining three certified teachers to teach the six different classes/grade levels. (Each of the teacher is being assigned to teach two different classes/grade levels in the same classroom for the entire school day.)	Investigation completed.  Case closed.	GDOE is not in compliance with P.L. 28-45 § 4 (12) (a) for failing to provide a certified teacher for every class at FQ Sanchez. In addition, GDOE is not in compliance with the law on the basis that an individual not certified to teach is providing instruction to one of the classes within the combined classes while the certified teacher provides instruction to the other class. Three certified teachers must be assigned to the school immediately or in the alternative, GDOE personnel who possess the necessary qualifications should be assigned to the school until permanent certified teachers can be provided.	GDOE stated that the teachers at FQ Sanchez are certified to teach all elementary grades and that the grade levels were combined to address the student-teacher ratios for the classrooms at FQ Sanchez. GDOE stated that it is not fiscally responsible and that the Department often does not have the financial resources to allow for such luxuries of having one certified teacher assigned to a class with seven or eight students as is the case at FQ Sanchez.

Issue	Status	Conclusion/Recommendation	Action taken
<p>The time designated for students to participate in the lunch program at JFK may be inadequate. Complainant indicated that several students are discouraged from participating in the school lunch program because of the long lunch lines and the lack of available seating in the dining area.</p>	<p>Investigation completed. Case closed.</p>	<p>No violation found. Out of 2100 students, approximately 166 to 170 students participate in the lunch program. The Kings supervisor indicated that the average number of students who eat lunch is around 170 per day and that she observed any problems with the lunch line or seating accommodations at this time. School officials indicated that the Cafeteria dining area can accommodate approximately 300 students. I would recommend that school officials have a contingency plan in order to accommodate any increase in student participation of the lunch program on the basis that the cafeteria dining area is only able to accommodate approximately 300 students at any one time.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Individual assigned to teach in Room 11 at the PC Lujan Elementary School does not possess a certificate to teach but does have a Bachelors degree in Education.</p>	<p>Investigation completed. Case closed.</p>	<p>Non compliant. Individual assigned to teach the class is not certified. Immediately provide a certified teacher in the class or identify GDOE personnel who possess the necessary qualifications and assign such person to the class until a permanent certified teacher can be provided.</p>	<p>The individual assigned to the class resigned.</p>
<p>A/C unit not working in the Nurse's office at PC Lujan.</p>	<p>Investigation completed. Case closed.</p>	<p>Non compliant. Although nurse's office is not a classroom, students often visit such office for various medical reasons and as such, an adequate room temperature must be maintained.</p>	<p>A/C unit was repaired on or about February 10, 2010.</p>
<p>The Untalan Middle School dining hall floor is dirty and stained with red or brown dirt.</p>	<p>Investigation completed. Case closed.</p>	<p>No violation found.</p>	<p>Cafeteria dining floor was clean and there were no visible signs of any stains.</p>
<p>A/C units not working in room A209 at GW High School. Room not adequately ventilated.</p>	<p>Investigation completed. Case closed.</p>	<p>Non compliant. Both A/C units are not working properly and as a result, the room is not properly ventilated. At 10 a.m., the room temperature measured 82 °F with a relative humidity of 60% with students present. The school has submitted a work request reporting the problem and follow ups have been conducted. However, both A/C units are still inoperable. I recommended that if ventilation cannot be improved, the students will need to be relocated to more suitable classroom.</p>	<p>Fans were provided and windows were opened in an effort to improve the ventilation. According to GDOE maintenance, an assessment was conducted on the A/C units and it was determined that the compressors were in disrepair. GDOE maintenance is scheduled to make the necessary repairs during the Easter break</p>

Issue	Status	Conclusion/Recommendation	Action taken
GDOE employee complained that a co-worker was annoying and irritating during work hours.	Complaint not accepted.	The issue did not meet the criteria under the Fourteen (14) Points.	N/A

**School inspection report.**

A. **School inspection report.** Pursuant to P.L. 28-45, the OES conducted inspections and noted various discrepancies at the following schools.

1. Chief Brodie Memorial Elementary.
  - a. Outer openings on top portion of the back entry door. Various plexi-glass sheets are being used to cover the louvered windows and are not properly secured to the window frame.
  - b. Evidence of bees nests throughout the campus.
  - c. A/C units drip water draining onto various hallway floors.
  - d. Self closing door device in disrepair or missing.
  - e. Various toilet tissue dispensers in the common use restrooms on the main campus are either missing or are in disrepair.
  - f. Various classroom hand washing facilities and the common use restrooms are without paper towels. Some teachers indicated that the school is out of stock of paper towels.
  - g. Various wall mounted soap dispensers inoperable.
  - h. Fire alarm system inoperable. (Fire watch program in effect.)
  
2. FBLG Middle School. The OES performed the inspection and the following discrepancies were noted.
  - a. Various A/C units not working or not cooling properly with students present.
  - b. Paint peeling at various parts of the campus, ceiling leaks in various rooms, and several exposed rebar and exposed concrete on various hall way ceilings.
  - c. Several used tires throughout the campus.
  - d. E wing student common use restroom facilities were closed during lunch time to students who are on lunch break. Such students on lunch break are not allowed in such area and are directed to use the Cafeteria restrooms instead.
  - e. Various surveyed items such as computers, several student desks, and other items being stored just outside the nurse's office.
  - f. Various hallways and classrooms with evidence of ceiling leaks. School officials also indicated that various rooms are experience ceiling leaks.
  - g. Boys gym restroom with evidence of termites. Dry rot wood on door jams and on an entry door located within the restroom.
  - h. Gym boys restroom hand washing sink faucet handles are in disrepair. The PE teacher indicated that the water has to be turned on and off at the shut-off valve located under the sink.
  - i. Several fire extinguishers annual service date expired. NOTE: A few fire extinguishers were observed to be properly serviced but the majority of the ones observed were expired.
  - j. Fire alarm system inoperable. (Fire watch program in effect.)
  - k. Missing screen underneath various storm water drainage inlets.
  - l. Three individuals currently assigned to perform guidance counselor services at the school are not certified guidance counselors.
  - m. Various A/C unit drip water draining onto various hallway floors.

3. Inarajan Elementary School.
  - a. Various A/C units not working or not cooling properly.
  - b. Cafeteria kitchen back door in disrepair.
  - c. Ceiling leaks in various classrooms.
  - d. Ceiling leak in Cafeteria dining hall.
  - e. Water fountain in disrepair.
  - f. School without supply of paper towels.
  - g. Fire alarm system inoperable. (Fire watch program in effect.)
  
4. MU Lujan.
  - a. No certified guidance counselor assigned to the school.
  - b. Two Chamorro language teachers not certified in Chamorro language.
  - c. Evidence of ceiling leaks in various classrooms.
  - d. Library without working air conditioning for approximately five years.
  - e. Various classroom A/C units not working.
  - f. Dirty A/C unit filters in various classrooms.
  - g. Cafeteria student common use restroom facilities unclean, lacking sanitary supplies, and sanitary dispensers missing or in disrepair.
  - h. Inadequate ventilation in the Cafeteria dining area.
  - i. Cafeteria entry door air curtains in disrepair.
  - j. Insufficient amount of urinals based on male student population.
  - k. Class Two stand pipe Fire hose cabinets in disrepair. Some of the fire hoses appear to be filled with water.
  - l. Fire alarm system in operable. (Fire watch program in effect.)
  
5. Carbullido Elementary School.
  - a. Common use restroom partitions (doors) that do not meet the minimum height requirement under the code have not yet been repaired. (Repeat discrepancy from the July 2009 inspection.)
  - b. The floor drain located in the female common use restroom near room 15 remains clogged. (Repeat discrepancy from the July 2009 inspection.)
  - c. Various window screens in disrepair. (Repeat discrepancy from the July 2009 inspection.)
  - d. Various broken window handles and louvers throughout the campus are still present.
  - e. Several of the student common use restroom paper towel dispensers were not stocked with paper towels. The school did not have a supply of the proper paper towels on hand.
  - f. Various toilet tissue dispensers were in disrepair or were missing the tissue holder.
  - g. Air curtains in the cafeteria are in operable.
  - h. The majority of the schools fire extinguishers annual service date has expired.
  - i. Fire alarm system inoperable. (Fire watch program in effect.)

B. Pursuant to P.L. 28-45, (the Fourteen (14) Points, the OES along with various government of Guam regulatory agencies conducted inspections of the following schools. The Department of Public Health issues demerit points based on the discrepancies/violation discovered during the inspection for the school building and for the cafeteria. In addition, Public Health issues a letter grade based on the total number of demerit points issued. The other regulatory agencies involved in the inspections do not issue demerit points or a letter grade but they do issue an inspection report detailing the discrepancies/violations discovered during any such inspection.

1. FBLG. Public Health issued a letter grade (“B”) for the school building and a letter grade (“C”) for the Cafeteria. The school building received an initial letter grade (“A”) but was downgraded to a letter grade (“B”) for a repeat violation of failing to meet the minimum required number of urinals

based on the male student population. In addition, the Cafeteria initially received a letter grade (“A”) but was downgraded to a letter grade (“C”) for two repeat violations for not providing hot water and for the air curtains in disrepair. The following discrepancies/violations were noted.

- a. Paint peeling throughout the campus
  - b. Insufficient amount of urinals necessary to accommodate the male student population.
  - c. Annual service date for the fire extinguishers is expired.
  - d. No hot water in the Cafeteria.
  - e. Cafeteria air curtains in disrepair.
2. Inarajan Elementary School. Public Health issued a letter grade (“A”) for the school building and a letter grade (“A”) for the Cafeteria. However, the following discrepancies/violations were noted.
- a. Evidence of termites.
  - b. A/C units not working in various classrooms. (No students present.)
  - c. Cafeteria A/C units in disrepair.
  - d. Several burnt out light bulbs in the Cafeteria dining area.
  - e. Overgrown vegetation within the ponding basin.
  - f. Missing screen at storm drain inlets.
  - g. Stock piling of green waste and other solid waste on campus.
3. Chief Brodie Memorial Elementary School. Public Health issued a letter grade (“A”) for the school building and a letter grade (“A”) for the Cafeteria. However, the following discrepancies/violations were noted.
- a. Overgrown vegetation.
  - b. Several restroom entry doors missing self-closing door devices.
  - c. Various A/C units in disrepair.
  - d. Stock piling of solid waste.
  - e. Open drain.
4. Carbullido Elementary School. Public Health issued a letter grade (“A”) for the school building and a letter grade (“A”) for the Cafeteria. However, the following discrepancies/violations were noted.
- a. Overgrown vegetation.
  - b. Various A/C units not working.
  - c. Annual service date for several fire extinguishers is expired.
  - d. Cafeteria air curtains in disrepair.
  - e. Stock piling of solid waste.
  - f. Used tires on campus.
  - g. Hose bibb leaking.
  - h. Missing backflow valve on hose bibb.

No other information follows.

Respectfully submitted this 26<sup>th</sup> day of March 2010.



Dominic Terlaje